

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TOKYO 07562 240312Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /010 W
-----240317Z 015675 /11
R 240255Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8012

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 7562

STADIS////////////////////////////////

FOR SHERMAN FROM SHOESMITH

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: JA, OVIP (MANSFIELD, MIKE)
SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF AMBASSADOR MANSFIELD

REF: STATE 117150

1. I HOPE THE FOLLOWING SCENARIO WILL COMPLY WITH AMBASSADOR MANSFIELD'S WISHES FOR A LOW KEY ARRIVAL WITH THE LEAST AMOUNT OF CEREMONY. IT REPRESENTS, IN MY VIEW, THE MINIMUM NECESSARY OF A NEWLY ARRIVING AMERICAN AMBASSADOR.

2. AIRPORT ARRIVAL: AMBASSADOR AND MRS. MANSFIELD WILL BE MET BY SENIOR EMBASSY OFFICERS AND APPROPRIATE FOREIGN MINISTRY REPRESENTATIVES, PERHAPS A DEPUTY CHIEF OF PROTOCOL AND HEAD OF THE AMERICAN AFFAIRS BUREAU. WE WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED OF THE DETAILS OF THE ARRIVAL SCENARIO AS THEY ARE FORMULATED.

3. PRESS: WE CAN NO DOUBT ANTICIPATE AN EXCEEDINGLY HIGH LEVEL OF PRESS INTEREST IN THE AMBASSADOR'S ARRIVAL, INCLUDING TV COVERAGE. I SUGGEST THAT EASIEST WAY TO HANDLE THIS ASPECT IS FOR AMBASSADOR TO MAKE BRIEF ARRIVAL STATEMENT. WE WILL ENSURE THAT THE MANSFIELD'S ARE NOT ENGULFED BY THE PRESS AND WILL INFORM PRESS IN ADVANCE THAT THE AMBASSADOR WILL NOT TAKE ANY
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QUESTIONS AT THE AIRPORT (UNLESS YOU INFORM US OTHERWISE).

4. EARLY PROTOCOL REQUIREMENTS: AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE AMBASSADOR'S ARRIVAL, THE EMBASSY SHOULD, ACCORDING TO PROTOCOL, INFORM THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE AMBASSADOR'S ARRIVAL AND REQUEST AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER. WHEN MEETING WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER, AT WHICH TIME HE ALSO CALLS ON THE

CHIEF OF PROTOCOL, THE AMBASSADOR PRESENTS AN OFFICIAL NOTE REQUESTING AN AUDIENCE WITH THE EMPEROR TO PRESENT CREDENTIALS. I WOULD ANTICIPATE NO PROBLEM IN THE AMBASSADOR'S WAITING UP TO A WEEK TO MEET WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER. THE CREDENTIALS CEREMONY WOULD THEN FOLLOW AT A MINIMUM OF SEVERAL DAYS THEREAFTER. MRS. MANSFIELD DOES NOT TAKE PART IN EITHER OF THESE CALLS, ALTHOUGH IT IS TRADITIONAL FOR CHAMPAGNE TO BE SERVED AT THE RESIDENCE FOLLOWING THE CREDENTIALS CEREMONY FOR A SMALL GROUP OF EMBASSY OFFICERS AND WIVES.

5. I SEE NOTHING ELSE ON THE HORIZON AT THIS JUNCTURE REQUIRING THE MANSFIELD'S PARTICIPATION DURING THEIR FIRST SEVERAL WEEKS IN TOKYO, AND WE ARE SCRUPULOUSLY AVOIDING ANY COMMITMENTS AND DISCOURAGING PROPOSALS. WE CAN PROCEED WITH APPOINTMENTS FOR OTHER PROTOCOL CALLS WHENEVER THE AMBASSADOR SUGGESTS FOLLOWING HIS ARRIVAL.
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